

AMNESIA IN *REMEMBER ME?* NOVEL BY SOPHIE KINSELLA (2008) :
A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH



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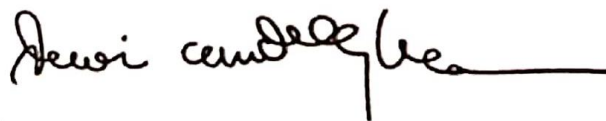
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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan tipe dari amnesia dan kondisi amnesia dengan pendekatan psikoanalitik dari tokoh utama Lexi Smart di novel *Remember Me* oleh Sophie Kinsella. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan psikoanalitik oleh Sigmund Freud, seperti Id, Ego dan Superego. Objek dari penelitian adalah novel *Remember Me* oleh Sophie Kinsella di 2008. Sementara, mengumpulkan data dari kata-kata, kalimat dari karakter Lexi Smart, percakapan diantara karakter dan cerita dari novel. Jenis penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif dengan menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif. Tipe dari data adalah dari novel setelah itu terbagi menjadi dua bagian, diambil dari: data utama dan data kedua. Data pertama berasal dari novel *Remember Me?* yang ditulis oleh Sophie Kinsella di 2008 dan data kedua berasal dari buku, jurnal online, tesis, dan skripsi yang terkait dengan penelitian ini. Di dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan teknik dari mengumpulkan data dengan teknik menganalisis dokumen. Hasil dari penelitian ini yang ditemukan adalah tipe amnesia berdasarkan Lexi Smart dari novel adalah retrograde amnesia dan kondisi amnesia dengan pendekatan psikoanalitik adalah Id, Ego dan Superego.

Kata Kunci: Amnesia, Novel *Remember Me?* , A Psychoanalytic Approach

Abstract

This research aims to find out the type of amnesia and the amnesia condition by psychoanalytic approach of the main character described by Lexi Smart in the *Remember Me* novel by Sophie Kinsella. This research used Psychoanalytic approach by Sigmund Freud, such as Id, Ego, and Superego. The object of this study is the *Remember Me?* novel by Sophie Kinsella in 2008.

While the data collected is in the form of words, sentences from the character Lexi Smart, conversation between the character and story from the novel. The type of this research is qualitative research using descriptive method. The research method using in this research is qualitative method. The type of Data from this novel after that divided into two parts, are taken from: primary data and secondary data. The primary data source from novel *Remember Me?* written by Sophie Kinsella in 2008 and the secondary data are from books, online journals, thesis, and research paper that related to this research. In this research, the researcher using technique of collecting data by document analysis techniques. The result that found in this research, the type of amnesia based on Lexi Smart in this novel is retrograde amnesia and the amnesia condition by psychoanalytic approach are Id, Ego and Superego.

Keywords: *Amnesia, Remember Me Novel, a Psychoanalytic Approach*

1. INTRODUCTION

This study described about the amnesia in Sophie Kinsella Novel entitled *Remember Me?* (2008). The researcher using Psychoanalytic Approach as primary source used previous studies to analyze this novel. The first research from Titis Sri Rahayu (2017) entitled: “Katnis Everdeen’s Ambition in the Hunger Games Trilogy Novel (2008-2010) by Suzanne Collins: A Psychoanalytic Approach. This study analyze about the ambition in Katnis Everdeen. The second research from Rinda Sinta Dewi (2019) titled: “Introvertness in the Perks of Being a Wallflower Novel (2012): A Psychoanalytic Approach.” This study described about behavior of main character, introvertness in main character and the last found the effect of introvertness in main character. The third study from Eistiyah Pratiwi (2017) titled: “Anxiety of Saman in Ayu Utami’s Saman Novel (1998): A Psychoanalytic Approach”. This study described about determining structural of anxiety based on psychoanalytic. The fourth

study from Budiyanto (2017) titled: “The Relation Between Dream and Reality Reflected in The Alchemist Novel by Paulo Coelho (1993): Psychoanalytic Approach.” This study described about Santiago’s personality affects his reality that make the dream comes true through many conflict face in along Santiago’s adventure. The fifth study from Fitrah Abdul Kahar (2017) titled: “Defense Mechanism of Amba Reflected in Laksmi Pamuntjak’s the questions of Red Novel (2014): A Psychoanalytic Approach.” This study described about to analyze defense mechanism of Amba reflected on Laksmi in this novel using Psychoanalytic Approach. The sixth study from Intan Permatasari (2016) titled: “Sadomasochism In E.L James’ Fifty Shades Trilogy (2011-2012): A Psychoanalytic Approach.” This study analyze about sexual acts that are committed by the two major character as practitioners of sadomasochism, know the response of the partner and why the author of the trilogy.

The author of “Remember Me?” novel is Sophie Kinsella. Sophie Kinsella is a best seller author’s from London. Sophie Kinsella was born on December 12, 1969. Sophie Kinsella was written several novels as it always a best seller. Her book were bestseller in UK on September 2000 is the Shopaholic series. She had also written other novels which have all been bestsellers in the UK, USA and other countries around the world. Synopsis of Remember Me Novel, which is starts from the main character of this novel is Lexi Smart. Lexi smart having an annoying night. She came to the club at the end of 2004, with her friends. But at the time Lexi’s boyfriend didn’t come to the club’s event. But Lexi was unable to remember the incident 3 years ago in detail because she had amnesia. She only remembers her friend, her mother, and her sister. She remembers the friend, named Fi. She also didn’t expect that her husband was very rich, handsome, and kind-hearted. Her husband named Eric.

This research will raise the issue of amnesia in a psychoanalytic approach. The first reason the researcher used a psychoanalytic approach that it can see from the phenomena of life, rooted in the psychology of

humans about how the amnesia condition from a psychoanalytic approach. The second reason because in this novel it was told about amnesia, the researcher also described the type of amnesia that occur from this novel and amnesia condition by psychoanalytic approach. So, the title in this research is “AMNESIA IN *REMEMBER ME?* NOVEL BY SOPHIE KINSELLA (2008): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH”. Conducting the research, in this study the researcher formulates the objective of the study, as follow: to find out the type amnesia by Lexi Smart in Remember Me novel and to find out the Amnesia condition in Remember Me novel by Psychoanalytic Approach.

Amnesia as known as the behavior that don't remembering something. The main cause of amnesia because they get injury that occurred on their heads. So they can forget their family, name, and events before their get amnesia. According (Rajesh Kumar et al., 2013) explain that amnesia “is a profound loss memory which is usually caused either by physical injury to the brain or by the ingestion of a toxic substance which affects the brain.”

Based on the definition above, the researcher using a psychoanalytic approach in this research. A psychoanalytic approach focuses on the main character Lexi Smart after she gets the amnesia in the novel Remember Me?.

2. METHOD

In this study, the researcher using qualitative research using descriptive method to this research. According to (Creswell, 2014) stated that qualitative methods “rely on text and images data, have unique steps in data analysis, and draw on diverse designs. It also involves discussing the sample for the study and the overall data collection and recording procedures”. The object of the research is the *Remember me?* novel by Sophie Kinsella in 2008. While the data collected is in the form of words, sentences from the character Lexi Smart, conversation between the character and story from the novel. In this research, the researcher using

type of data and the data source. The data source of this research decided into 2 parts: primary data source and secondary data source. The primary data source from this study is the novel *Remember Me?* Written by Sophie Kinsella. The novel was published in 2008. Secondary data sources from this study are books, online journals, thesis, and research papers that related to this research. This research to conducting data, the research used technique of collecting data, as follows: (a) The research read the novel titled “Remember me?” , (b) The researcher browsing and searching in the internet to get more information from article or journal that related in this research, (c) The researcher identified and analyzed the data on the main character from beginning until the ending, (d) The researcher took notes to using for both primary and secondary data,(e) Identifying the problem and finding data, (f) Identifying the problem and finding data. (g) The researcher got the result of the research by making a conclusion and suggestion.

3. RESULT ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY

3.1 Finding of the research

3.1.1. The type of amnesia

This parts showing the type of amnesia in the main character Lexi Smart in the novel by Sophie Kinsella entitled *Remember Me?*. In this analysis, the researcher find out the type of Amnesia in this novel. The type of amnesia is retrograde amnesia. Findings of the novel in the main character is described as follows:

3.1.1.1 Retrograde Amnesia

The amnesia experienced began when she woke up in hospital

I’m trying to remember last night as hard as I can- but all that’s coming into my head is stupid stuff. Old memories and images from the past, flashing by in random, order, like some kind of iPod shuffle in my brain. (*Remember Me?* 2008: 18)

The quotation tells about Lexi trying to remember about herself. Lexi tried to remember what activities she did before she felt like this. But she failed to remember it. Lexi was forgot about her activities last night.

‘It says “Director” on my business card. That’s like, boss of the whole department. How could I possibly be the boss?’(Remember Me? 2008: 42)

The quotation tells about Lexi position in her position in her department. Lexi was remember that she is a sales in Carpet’s company. After she discover her diary, she was shocked about her activities in this diary. Lexi is a director in her company. Lexi don’t believe that. As she remembers that she is a sales in her company, and herself doesn’t know about it. Even though became a sales she has not received a bonus.

I’ve lost three years of my life! I don’t know anything about myself in 2007. I don’t look the same, none of my things are the same, and I found these rings which apparently belong to me, and I just have to know something....’ ‘Mum....am I really *married*?’ (Remember Me? 2008: 47)

In this quotation tells that Lexi confused about herself. Lexi felt like she was not. This is very strange. This is not only forgot put something, but she felt was forgotten about his life. Lexi’s mother attempted to tells about their marriage and bring in Eric to come in hospital. Lexi thinks Eric is a dog, but it’s wrong. In another data tells about Lexi and Eric marriage. In this quotation shows that Lexi feel was surprised have to married with Eric. Whereas Lexi still do not remember when their married.

‘I’m sorry, I’m not being rude, I don’t remember anyone I’ve met in the last three years. My friends My husband, even. He was a total stranger to me! My own husband! Can you believe it?’ (Remember Me? 2008:118)

The quotation tells about Lexi was meeting with a man that also she doesn't remembering it. The man is named Jon. Jon is a Lexi's friend. But Lexi forgot about Jon.

'I feel dizzy!' The words come out of nowhere. I clap a hand to my eyes and back away from the bed. 'Oh my God. I'm having a flashback.' 'A *flashback*?' Eric sits up, alert. 'Yes! I had a sudden memory of ... the wedding,' I improvise. 'It was just a brief image, of you and me, but it was really vivid, it took me by surprise.' (Remember Me? 2008:255)

In the quote above, Lexi was feel that her memory comeback to herself. After Lexi spent time with Eric, she felt his memory comeback slowly.

3.1.2 Amnesia Condition by Psychoanalytic Approach

3.1.1 Id

The first id is Lexi decided to live with Eric as his wife.

Experimentally I push the key into the slot beside the steering wheel—and it fits! I rotate it forward, like I've seen people do, and there's a kind of roar of protest from the engine. Shit. What did I do? I turn it forward again, more cautiously, and this time there's no roar, but a few lights pop on around the dashboard.

I place my hands firmly on the steering wheel. Here we go. Think about other things. La la la. Don't think about driving. Just let your body do what comes naturally. Maybe I should sing a song that worked before. (Remember Me? 2008:115)

The Id in this quotation above can be showed that Lexi wants to drive her new car without consideration. Maybe it could be made Lexi have an accident again because she only felt can drive the car but Lexi was only remembered just a few driving techniques. After that, Lexi went to her office to work. When Lexi arrived in her office, Lexi wants to meet with Fi, as her old friend. Lexi was

confused about the conduct's friend, as long as she works again in her office. It can be seen in the dialogue below:

‘Fi, I really need to talk to you, OK?’ I clutch the phone tighter. ‘I ... I don’t remember anything. And it’s freaking me out a bit. The whole situation.’ I try to laugh. ‘Just hang on, I’ll be out in a moment ...’
(Remember Me? 2008:136)

The Id in the dialogue shows that Lexi wants to persuade Fi to just hang out with herself. Lexi hate with this situation, Lexi was felt freaking out by the whole situation. In the night, Lexi must attend gathering with Eric. After the event ended, Lexi and Eric come back to home. After they arrived home, Lexi wants to establish that Lexi loved Eric. Lexi will be going to have sex with Eric in this night. The Id can show in data below:

I’m going to have sex with Eric. This is my mission. As I ride home in a taxi I’m quite excited. As soon as I get back, I’ll jump him. And we’ll have amazing sex and my mind will be blown and suddenly everything will be clear. (Remember Me? 2008:201)

Here, it can be showing that the Id from the data is Lexi want to go to have sex with Eric. In the Id, desire to have sex this is must be fulfilled to meet her satisfaction. After Lexi have sex with Eric, in another situation while Lexi meets with Jon, Lexi also to going to have to kiss with Jon to fulfill her desire. It can be seen in the following part:

My breaths are coming shorter and shorter. I’ve forgotten about everything else. I want to kiss him. I want to kiss him in a way I didn’t want to kiss Eric.
(Remember Me? 2008:231)

It showing that the Id work have to desire to kiss with Jon. The Id can’t distinguish between the good or the bad things. The Id only works to fulfill her desires that it can be felling happy. Another the Id that found in Lexi, it can be seen in the data below:

Then I need to think where we're going to base ourselves. We need an office, somewhere cheap and convenient. Maybe Balham (Remember Me? 2008:326)

Lexi has a decision about her a new office. The id showing that Lexi thinking about having a new office soon and maybe it can build in Balham. The action of the Id that the desires of Lexi to having a new building office as a new deller carpet.

3.1.2 Ego

The first ego from this novel begins from Lexi still to refuse Eric to meet with herself, it can be seen in the data below:

'Mum. Please.' I turn to her. '**It's too soon.** Tell him to come back later. Tomorrow. Or we could leave it a few weeks, even.' (Remember Me? 2008:59)

In the quotation above tells id in this novel. The ego from this shows that Lexi refused to meet with Eric, as her husband. Eric has arrived in the front of Lexi's room, but Lexi doesn't want to meet with Eric. Lexi doesn't know about the effect if she refused Eric today. Maybe Eric could be angry because of Lexi's attitude. It can be seen in the data, as follow:

'You know what, Eric?' I say carefully, measuring out my words. 'I think I *should* come and live with you.' 'I'll get to know you again!' I say with growing enthusiasm. 'Surely the best chance I have of something my life is to live it. You can tell me about yourself, and me. 'Eric, I really want to come home with you,' I say as sincerely as I can. 'I'm sure we have a great, loving marriage. We can work it out.' (Remember Me? 2008:80)

In the text above, showing that Lexi decided to live with Eric. After Lexi consider about, Lexi decided to live with Eric to get her memory. It is including the function of the ego to solve real

problems. The problem of Lexi is didn't remember anything especially about her husband, Eric. Based on the problem, Ego encourages Lexi to live with Eric. Lexi was assuming if she leaves with Eric, she will get her memory again. The next ego we can see in the data below. Another ego that is found from this novel, when Lexi wants to meet with her friends. It can be seen in the data below:

But I need you to tell me the truth.' I look around the group in desperation. 'If we didn't have a row, what's wrong? What happened?' (Remember Me? 2008:138)

In the Id, showing that Lexi has the desire to ask for help to Fi to explain what happened. The Ego encouraged Lexi to decide to meet with her friends when having lunch together. In the text above, Lexi asked her friend about the problem and Lexi ask for the truth from them. Lexi decided to ask with them because Lexi wants to know what is happened all the time, especially when she gets amnesia and didn't work in her department. The Ego in here works based on the reality. The reality from the text above tells that Lexi confused with the gesture of her friends, after that Ego gives the decision to Lexi to meet with her friend and ask for them about the truth from this problem. Here, the function of Ego to solve the problem from Lexi about the gesture of her friends. After they arrived, Eric introduces Lexi to Jon. Jon is an Eric colleague. Jon remembering that Lexi as her girlfriend. Lexi doesn't realize about it. Lexi have Eric and Jon admit to Lexi that Jon love with her. But Lexi was refuse Jon, the dialogue following:

'Leave me alone. I don't know you. I don't love you. Things are hard enough for me right now. I just want to get on with my life, with my husband. OK?' I make to head down the stairs. (Remember Me? 2008:184)

In the dialogue above, the ego of Lexi shows that she refuses Jon. But it happened before Jon explain the truth. Jon only explains to her that she never loves with Eric. But Lexi refuse the explanation of Jon. It is not true, Lexi loving with Eric. Lexi decided to live with Eric to back her remember. It showing the unconscious of Lexi, that she refused about something before she know the truth. After Lexi solve the problem with her friends, in other Ego can be found in this novel, as follow:

I can feel his arms wrapping tightly around me; the roughness of his five o'clock shadow. My eyes are closed, I'm losing myself, this is so right... (Remember Me? 2008:231)

This data, showing that Lexi doing a kiss with Jon. In other situation, Lexi didn't refuse a kiss from Jon. In the Id, Lexi wants to kiss John and didn't kiss with Eric. Lexi felt comfortable with this situation and really enjoy it. Here Ego shows the wrong things that made Lexi doing this gesture. Behavior done by Lexi based on his unconscious because Lexi wants to kiss with Jon, while Jon is not her husband. Unconscious here only wants to be filled with kissing with Jon. Beside it, the marriage of Lexi has a problem. It can be seen in the data below:

‘I think I should move out.’ I take a few steps away, focusing on the carpet. ‘I’m sorry, but it’s just... too much of a strain.’ (Remember Me? 2008:331)

Lexi was knowing the truth about Eric. Eric didn't love Lexi but Eric love with her beautiful collage job. Lexi feels disappointed with Eric. Lexi was not believed it, Lexi was loved with Eric, but Eric love with her only to get good collagen from Lexi. After her staff becomes unemployment, Lexi has a great idea to establish a dealer carpet.

Beside it, Lexi also has another decision that can make her life better. It can be seen in the data below:

OK. I'm making the right decision. 'Bye, Eric,' I say against his expensive, scented shirt. 'I'll see you.' (Remember Me? 2008:332)

Lexi has a decision that can make herself leave her husband, Eric. Her decision from the Id, after that the Ego give the decision to leave Eric, and it can make to solve their problems. Because the working of the ego to solve problem from the pleasure of the Id. The Id shows that Eric only loves her collagen of Lexi and Lexi had been realized it. The Ego is working from the reality principle so that the reality of the data is that Eric didn't loves Lexi sincerely but he love with Lexi cause of her collagen.

3.1.3 Superego

The first superego begin from Lexi was confused because must live with Eric to remembering anything especially their wedding. It can be seen in the data below:

Maybe Amy's right. Maybe we should have sex. I glance at Eric—and I'm convinced he's thinking the same thing. (Remember Me? 2008:76)

This data shows that Amy, as the sister give advice to Lexi will be living with Eric to remember again about everything. The superego working for moralistic. It means that Lexi as a wife of Eric it should be live together. After that, Lexi was lived with Eric together, Lexi did the wrong thing that makes glass leopard broken. It can be seen in the data below:

Come on. I can't start off my brand-new marriage by keeping secrets from my husband. I have to be brave and own up. 'HAVE BROKEN GLASS LEOPARD BY MISTAKE,' I type in. 'REALLY SORRY. HOPE IT'S NOT IRREPLACEABLE?' I press 'Send' and pace about as I wait for the reply, telling myself over and over not to worry. (Remember Me? 2008:89)

The Superego from this data showing that Lexi as a wife makes a decision based on morals that as a wife there should be no secrets with a husband. Lexi was made glass leopard broken and she should be apologizing to her husband and told the truth about it.

Furthermore, in other data, it can be seen data to superego:

Maybe I can be all joky and friendly! I'll start off, 'Hey guys! Are you lunch long enough?' I'll roll my eyes to show I'm being ironic and everyone will laugh, and someone will say 'Is there a problem, Lexi?' And I'll smile ruefully and say It is not me, it's the stuffed shirts upstairs. So let's just try and make it back on time, yeah?' And a few people will nod as though to say 'fair enough'. And it'll all be fine. (Remember Me? 2008:196)

From the data above, the superego shows that Lexi thinks based on the norm to make other people happy, so Lexi must be a joky, and friendly person considered in the society.

4. CONCLUSION

This section explain the conclusion of the finding and discussion result in previous chapter. The first result was the type of amnesia. The type of amnesia that occurred on Lexi Smart is retrograde amnesia. It can be seen based on the data that Lexi Smart didn't remember anything about her life, such as her position, her husband and her activities around three years ago.

The second result was the amnesia condition viewed from a psychoanalytic approach. The researcher used psychoanalytic approach by Sigmund Freud on this study. The basic concept of this theory that the researcher used for analyzing the amnesia condition of Lexi Smart by psychoanalytic approach are *id*, *ego*, and *superego*.

Amnesia as known as the behavior that people didn't remembering something. The causes of amnesia can been from accident and get

injury that occurred on their head. It is can make people who gets amnesia forget their family, job and events before their get amnesia. The main character in this novel, Lexi has effort to bring back her memories. She decided life with her husband to finding her memories, she comeback to work in her office, and she hangout with her friends. The purpose Lexi to do this to get her goal to bring back her memories again.

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